

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 274207

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DRAFTED BY H:NMCDONNELL:SM

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:OREP (RICHARDSON, WILLIAM B.)

SUBJECT: STAFFDEL RICHARDSON

REF: STATE 262827

1. AT THE REQUEST OF SENATOR HUMPHREY AND SENATOR CLARK, WILLIAM B. RICHARDSON OF THE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS WILL VISIT ZAIRE AND OTHER COUNTRIES IN AFRICA.

2. RICHARDSON HAS FOLLOWING SPECIFIC INTERESTS AND REQUESTS FOR APPOINTMENTS IN ZAIRE: (A) U.S.-ZAIRE MILITARY RELATIONSHIP, PRESENT AND FUTURE; (B) STATUS OF ZAIRE MILITARY, DEFENSE NEEDS AND CAPABILITIES; (C) ZAIRE-ANGOLA MILITARY BALANCE AND OTHER INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL THREATS AS PERCEIVED BY ZAIRE AND U.S. OFFICIALS; (D) ZAIRE ECONOMIC SITUATION, WITH A FOCUS ON DEBT SERVICING, AS WELL AS U.S. BILATERAL AND MULTILATERAL ASSISTANCE EFFORTS. SPECIFICALLY, RICHARDSON WOULD APPRECIATE A BRIEFING ON THE DISPOSITION OF THE \$7.5 MILLION AUTHORIZED FOR ZAIRE IN BUDGET ASSISTANCE FOR 1976. IN TERMS OF APPOINTMENTS AND SCHEDULING, PRIORITY

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PAGE 02 STATE 274207

SHOULD BE GIVEN TO MILITARY ASSISTANCE AND SALES MATTERS.

IN TERMS OF PRIORITY APPOINTMENTS, RICHARDSON REQUESTS, IN ADDITION TO EMBASSY BRIEFING AND CONSULTATIONS WITH COLONEL GERASSI AND MAAG, PRIVATE INDIVIDUAL SESSIONS WITH GENERAL BABIA (2 HOURS IF POSSIBLE), AUTHORITATIVE FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL, COLONEL MAMPA (GROUND), COLONEL KIKUNDA (AIR FORCE) AND B.G. SINGA (GENDARME). HE WOULD APPRECIATE APPOINTMENTS WITH A REPRESENTATIVE FROM CITIBANK, WORLD BANK AND IMF, AND EDUCATIONAL EXCHANGE PEOPLE. RICHARDSON WOULD LIKE TO FLY OVER INGA DAM AND PORT OF MATADI, THEN TOUR THE ARMY TRAINING BASE OF CATONA, ALL TO LAST APPROXIMATELY HALF DAY. RICHARDSON ALSO IS INTERESTED IN TRIPS TO LUMUMBASHI AND BUKAVI, AS WELL AS A TOUR OF KANINE, THE MILITARY AIR BASE. RICHARDSON WILL DEFER TO POSTS ON THE ADVISABILITY AND FEASIBILITY OF SUCH TRIPS IN LIGHT OF SCHEDULE AND DISTANCES INVOLVED.

3. EMBASSY MAY WISH TO SUGGEST ADDITIONAL APPOINTMENTS. RICHARDSON AGREEABLE TO WORKING BREAKFASTS, LUNCHEES AND DINNERS WHENEVER NECESSARY OR DESIRABLE. RICHARDSON HAS BEEN BRIEFED BY ZAIRE DESK AT STATE AND GENERAL ROCKWELL IN DEFENSE, AND HAS INFORMED THE ZAIRE EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON OF HIS TRAVEL PLANS. RICHARDSON WOULD APPRECIATE PROGRESS REPORTS ON HIS SCHEDULE AND APPOINTMENTS BY TELEGRAM ADDRESSED TO HIM AT APPROPRIATE POINT ON CODEL CLARK ITINERARY. BECAUSE OF SCHEDULE OF SENATOR CLARK, RICHARDSON WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO EXTEND HIS STAY IN ZAIRE.

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